

## David Palmer Receives Top Governor's EMS Award

### *9 Others Honored at Virginia EMS Symposium*



**Excellence in EMS**  
**David B. Palmer**  
**Virginia Beach, Va.**

David Palmer was cited for outstanding leadership as the Chair of the Virginia EMS Advisory Board and, through the many organizations that he has served, his contributions to developing Virginia's exceptional statewide EMS system.

His dedication of time, energy, vision and know-

ledge has helped to foster mutual respect and singularity of purpose among the state's many diverse components.

Palmer is Assistant Chief of EMS/Medical Operations for the City of Norfolk, Dept. of Fire-Rescue. He is a member of the Tidewater EMS Council, past chair of the Virginia Association of Governmental EMS Administrators, on the teaching faculty at Eastern Virginia Medical School and a senior on-call commander for all types of fire-rescue emergency incidents



**Outstanding EMS Agency**  
**Prince William Dept. of**  
**Fire and Rescue**  
**Prince William, Va.**

Prince William Dept. of Fire and Rescue was commended for its aggressive medical protocols, exceptional medical direction, quality continuing education programs and progressive quality improvement program. The agency is recognized for being on the cutting edge of emergency medical services technology.

Prince William placed AEDs throughout the county in 26 office buildings, which earned the agency the Medtronic Health Safe Community Award in 2002. It has been nationally honored for its Rescue Me program. The agency recognized potential language barriers and developed visuals cards that Hispanic patients can use to describe their medical problem.



**Outstanding**  
**Pre-Hospital Provider**  
**William D. Henderson, Jr.**  
**Reedville, Va.**

Bill Henderson has dedicated more than 40 years as an EMS volunteer and averages 130 calls a year. He serves Northumberland County Rescue Squad and is a life member of Charlottesville-Albemarle Rescue Squad.

For 32 years he took a 10-12 hour shift every sixth day. He has been an EMS instructor for 28 years

during which he has conducted more than 40 EMT classes that graduated over 300 EMTs, 60 CPR courses for over 700 students and more than 100 continuing education classes. His dedication to teaching has exceeded 12,000 hours and extends to neighboring rescue squads.

**Outstanding EMS Administrator**  
**Gary P. Critzer**  
**Waynesboro, Va.**



Gary P. Critzer was honored for dedicating over 27 years to improving pre-hospital health care in Virginia and for his leadership in the coordination of rescue, fire, police and the Emergency Operations Center in Waynesboro. He is the EMS Director for the City of Waynesboro and a volunteer with Waynesboro First Aid Crew.

Critzer serves on the Governor's EMS Advisory Board and is President of Central Shenandoah EMS Council. He is an EMS instructor and a regional preceptor who trains new ALS providers. He was cited for implementing the city-wide AED program in which a police officer, fire truck, ambulance and CPR provider respond with an AED to all cardiac arrest calls.

**Congratulations**  
**to the**  
**2003 Outstanding**  
**EMS Award Winners**

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**Outstanding EMS Call  
Gloucester Fire and Rescue Squad  
Gloucester, Va.**



Gloucester Fire and Rescue Squad's exceptional coordination of mutual aid at the site of a motor vehicle collision helped assure appropriate pre-hospital care. The incident involved eight victims with multiple serious injuries and loss of life.

As lead agency, they coordinated the response of multiple agencies and three Medevac units, transported victims to five hospitals for definitive medical and surgical intervention.

Gloucester Fire and Rescue Squad was commended for its leadership, dedication and skilled actions that contributed to the survival and reduced morbidity of these accident victims.



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**Outstanding  
Contribution to EMS  
Bon Secours St.  
Mary's Hospital  
Richmond, Va.**

Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital was honored for its outstanding support of the Central Virginia EMS system during the past 14 years, in both regional and local functions. The hospital has provided office space and utilities to the Old Dominion EMS Alliance (ODEMSA) at no charge, enabling the Alliance to concentrate its funds on needed EMS programs and services.

St. Mary's Hospital has sponsored eight EMT-Cardiac courses, providing training to some 150 EMS providers. It is an active member of ODEMSA and participates in several regional committees. The hospital has assisted ODEMSA in establishing a regional Web-based hospital diversion program to manage large numbers of emergency patients in any diversion situation.



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**Outstanding  
EMS Physician  
Charles Devine, III,  
MD  
South Boston, Va.**

Charles J. Devine was recognized for his volunteer contributions to enhance the EMS system in Central Virginia, where he serves as the Operational Medical Director for eight fire and EMS agencies. He is Chief of Pre-Hospital EMS and a staff physician in the emergency department at Halifax Regional Hospital.

Devine was cited as being "totally involved. You are as likely to see him at the scene of an accident as you are at the rescue squad building or at the hospital." He established a county-wide EMS quality improvement program and a rapid sequence intubation program for EMT-Paramedics.

Devine is a member of the Halifax County Tactical Medical Team and the South Boston Police Dept. Tactical Team. He serves as Medical Examiner for Halifax County and on the Board of Directors on Southside EMS Council.



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**Outstanding  
Pre-Hospital  
Instructor  
John E. Burruss, Jr.  
Charlottesville, Va.**

John E. Burruss is Deputy Chief, Special Operations, Charlottesville-Albemarle Rescue Squad. He is credited with the creation and success of their Technical Rescue Team and the Super EMT class, which immerses students in the lifestyle and skills of today's EMS providers.

Burruss has taught two EMT classes a year for 20 years. He was recognized for teaching close to 800 EMTs, from which 75 percent joined rescue and fire agencies and 60 are now physicians, the majority of which are emergency physicians. He has instructed advanced level EMS providers, nurses and physicians on numerous EMS related issues.



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**Outstanding  
Contribution to  
EMS for Children  
Petra Menzel  
Richmond, Va.**

Petra Menzel was commended for her efforts to bring pediatric issues before local, regional, state and federal venues. She is the Virginia EMS for Children Program Coordinator.

Menzel serves on the Virginia Disaster Response/Emergency Management Committee and was able to make JumpSTART and Pediatric Disaster Life Support a priority. Menzel coordinated the Virginia EMS for Children Committee (EMSC) efforts to produce a teaching video on the JumpSTART pediatric triage criteria. She has secured more than \$1 million in grants for Virginia EMSC.

Menzel serves on numerous regional, state and national committees in her efforts to promote EMSC.



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**Nurse With  
Outstanding  
Contribution to EMS  
Susan Frishkorn, RN  
Gloucester, Va.**

Susan Frishkorn was honored for her work with Virginia's EMS system to ensure readiness and communications for patient care in the Middle Peninsula. A nurse for more than 20 years, she was recognized as an avid planner and participant in community hospital and EMS agency training.

Frishkorn is Nurse Manager in the Emergency Department, Riverside Walter Reed Hospital and a member of the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Medical Response System's Hospital Committee. She has organized three community-wide readiness drills in the past year involving EMS agencies in the Middle Peninsula and Virginia Peninsula, and numerous other agencies involved in community protection.

She is cited for running an efficient emergency department in a rural community setting.